



Press release / Event report - Lead in Paint for Household Use in Iraq

Erbil-Ankawa-Ashti district- in front of Umalmaooona Church

اربيل – عنكاوا- محلة اشتي- مقابل كنيسة ام المعونة

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Together for better Environment



:ministry of Environment /Technical department. Below the details of the two events

1- Baghdad Event:

On 25th of October Together in collaboration with ministry of health & environment organized the event of press release of the report “Lead in Paint in Household Use in Iraq”, we invited all stakeholders through our Association and through official letters from Ministry of health & environment including the media channels , but unfortunately few people found a way to come to the



event because all main roads in Baghdad was blocked for a week started from 24th of October because of Shea’a religious visit by walking (millions of people from all governorates walking to Karbala).



The people who could attend the event were from Ministry from environment, ministry of industry /environment department, Baghdad university, Almustansyria University, Oil ministry , ministry of culture, University of Fallujah, office of industrial development, NGOs, media coverage through the media department of ministry of health & environment, also point light news agency covered the event.

We started the event by the Iraqi national Anthem, then the introduction speech of the ministry of environment & health by the manager of Chemicals department. (It was planned the speech will be given by the general director of technical department, but she couldn't attend because there is no ways at that day), he thanked Together for the great effort & continuous collaboration with ministry especially for this study and he promised to adopt all the recommendations & results from this study, also he thanked IPEN for supporting countries for toxic free future.

Then Together presented the study results & recommendation starting the presentation by focusing on the hazards of Lead on our health, especially young people & pregnant women, the sources of Lead in our life & focusing on the Lead in paint in household use in Iraq, presenting the results, & recommendation and showing them the latest map of the studies in the world & Arab countries and comparing the results with our study results.

Also we gave information about IPEN & its network & goals for Lead in paint.

Then we answered the people who have some questions.

The last seminar was introduced by the ministry of environment & health, he talked about the lead hazards on health going in details for the hazards on each organs in the human body & also he mentioned the ministry successful efforts by preventing Tetra Ethyl Lead in car fuel.

- The ministry of health & environment will invite the paint manufacturers & importers who's their paints shows high level of lead to inform them and give them official letter and will them to commit to the recommended level & also to commit to all other recommendations in this study, on the other hand they suggest to honor the companies that have lowest level of Lead content < 90 p.p.m .

All attendees welcomed the event and asked for more events on the chemicals that affected their health .

Then we invited them to have coffee break.



2-Anbar University / Applied Science college in Heet event

On 22nd of October Together coordinator in Anbar university (Dr. Atyaf Abdulkahar) organized an event about the Lead in paint & it's hazards on health & environment, and the results of the study done by support of IPEN, also Environment office & health office in Anbar gave lectures about the Lead hazards. About 85 people attended the event, representing municipality, health environment, university students, and when they know that Almurjan have the highest content of Lead 110,000 p.p.m, they were shocked, because they thought it is the best one in the market and they used it widely.



- During the two events we distributed the folder, the reports in Arabic & English, the press release.

- Media coverage:

- Light.point agency

- www.lead.org.au/lanv18n3/lanv18n3-12.pdf

- www.leadworld.com/media-page/lanv18n3-contents/lanv18n3-12-who-2017-lead-group-of-action-list-of-events/



Together coordinators in Anbar governorate organized with group of volunteer students from Environment department in Anbar University, field visit to the paint shops, people who are working in

3-Another activity in Heet district, 28/10/2018:





painting of cars workshops and they give them information about Lead in paint hazards and distribute folders with a lot of information about lead hazards on health especially children and pregnant women. Also the folder contains the results of the Lead in paint study.



بمناسبة الإِسبوع العالمي

للد من استخدام الرصاص بالأصباغ للفترة من (٢٢ - ٢٨ / ١٠ / ٢٠١٨)

وبالتعاون مع دائرة بيئة الأنبار وجمعية معا لحماية الإنسان والبيئة

يسر كلية العلوم التطبيقية - هيت ان تدعوكم لحضور ندوتها الأولى للعام الدراسي ٢٠١٨-٢٠١٩

الموسومة (مخاطر التلوث بالرصاص المستخدم في الأصباغ وأثاره على البيئة)

في صباح يوم الاثنين الموافق ٢٢ / ١٠ / ٢٠١٨

الساعة التاسعة والنصف على قاعة الندوات في الكلية.

يشرفنا حضوركم...

Our future plans:

We will continue organizing awareness sessions for the people and we hope to have support to start test paint workers blood lead content in order to check the problem size on health & to give advice to those people.

Challenges:

1. Suddenly all main roads in Baghdad were blocked by the government for security issues because of Shea'a religious walk.
2. It rained heavily 2 days before the event and the electricity of the ministry was damaged and need time for maintenance, this put us in a very critical situation, and I was with them for two days to solve this problem, then they had many trials to get electricity from the neighbors and finally we succeeded to get it from the neighbors for the event day.

